

REMARKS

Claims 1-129 and 164-174 are pending in the above-identified application. The Examiner subjected claims 1-129 and 164-174 to a restriction and/or election requirement.

I. ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

Applicants respectfully request that the attorney docket number be changed. Kindly replace "36601/CAG/B600" with --15258US02--.

II. INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview with Applicants' registered representative, Michael T. Cruz, Reg. No. 44,636. In the telephone interview conducted on May 13, 2004, Mr. Cruz and Examiner Nghi H. Ly discussed claims 1-129 and 164-174. U.S. Patent No. 5,953,640 ("Meador") and U.S. Patent No. 5,537,459 ("Price") were also discussed. The Examiner agreed to withdraw Price as a reference and to issue an election/restriction requirement before rendering a subsequent *Non-Final* Office Action.

III. RESTRICTION AND/OR ELECTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action, a restriction and/or election requirement was set forth listing six (6) species:

Species I:	Claims 2-24, 33-43, 52-77, 86-105, 113-123 and 164
Species II:	Claims 25-31, 44-50, 78-84, 106-111 and 124-129
Species III:	Claims 167, 169, 170 and 174
Species IV:	Claims 168 and 171-173
Species V:	Claim 165
Species VI:	Claim 166.

Applicants respectfully elect Species I without traverse. Accordingly, claims 1-24, 32-43, 51-77, 85-105, 112-123 and 164 have been elected. Therefore, Applicants respectfully withdraw, without prejudice, claims 25-31, 44-50, 78-84, 106-111, 124-129 and 165-174 which correspond to the non-elected species (i.e., Species II-VI).


IV. CONCLUSION

Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any required fees not paid herewith or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

Dated: July 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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